

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 36

October 31, 2005

SUBJECT: TATTOO AND BRANDING STANDARDS FOR ON-DUTY UNIFORMED AND NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES - REVISED

PURPOSE: This Order revises uniform and dress standards for sworn Department employees having a tattoo(s) and/or brandings as previously outlined in Special Order No. 48, 2003, *Visible Tattoos and Branding Standards for Sworn Department Employees*.

PROCEDURE: Sworn Department uniformed and non-uniformed employees, while on-duty, shall not display any tattoos and/or branding. Officers shall cover all tattoos/branding by wearing an authorized long-sleeved uniform shirt if in uniform; if in business attire, the business attire shall cover all tattoos. However, if an officer has only one tattooed/branded area of a three-inch square or less to cover, the officer may, instead of wearing a long-sleeved shirt, cover that area with only one patch, of a color as close to the wearer's skin color as is reasonably available, up to a three-inch square. If the tattoo/branding area is more than can be covered by a three-inch square skin patch, the officer shall wear the long-sleeved uniform shirt or business attire, as appropriate for the assignment. The intent is that no tattoos/branding shall be visible and that no more than one three-inch square skin patch shall be visible.

Exception: Sworn officers working in an undercover assignment are exempt from this policy while working in an undercover capacity.

Current tattoo/branding standards for employees working off-hours engaged in Department business remain in effect.

AMENDMENTS: This Order amends Section 3/605.90 of the Department Manual.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY: All bureau commanding officers shall monitor compliance with this directive in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.

WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police

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